

MARCH 16, 2016



# State of the City



RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

## These Are Exciting Times for Our City

*Making Renton a Safe and Quality Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play.*



The state of our city today is very good, for a host of reasons. Our city has become a popular place to live and work, and is envied by many other communities. Newcomers to Renton quickly realize the deep sense of community spirit and pride that makes Renton so different from most other places.

There are a lot of positive things taking place in Renton today. The community has earned a positive reputation throughout the region. We build the best airplanes in the world and we're home to Super Bowl champions. Young people leave for school and return to raise families. We're an inclusive community, and we're working to improve the quality of life for everybody. These are exciting times in Renton.

**In addition to day-to-day service, we are focusing special attention in five major areas.**

1. Economic development, which attracts business and new jobs
2. Inclusion/Diversity Initiative and serving our vulnerable population
3. Police effectiveness and improving community relations
4. Quality of Life issues, from our popular parks to programs serving the public
5. Ongoing efforts of improving our workforce culture, competence and customer service





## Accomplishments & Priorities

### A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

- Formed Mayor's Inclusion Task Force representing Renton's diverse communities.
- Strengthening relationships between Police Department and faith community by working closely together.
- Expanding recruitment initiatives to ensure diverse workforce reflects the community we serve.
- Holding our first Multi-cultural Festival representing different cultures from around the world.

### REDUCING CRIME AND IMPROVING SAFETY

- Developing creative strategies to reduce crime.
- Improving relationships between our police officers and residents.
- Employing new initiatives that improve the sense of safety throughout the community.



### CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE OF OUR CITY

- Planning Department handled 5,000 building permits, from small remodels to major construction projects.
- More than a half-billion dollars in investments under construction here today.
- A luxury Hyatt Regency hotel under construction on the lake at the south end of Gene Coulon Park.
- Plans underway for a 730,000 square foot, Class A office campus in Southport.
- A Hampton Inn & Suites with 110 rooms and Marriott Residence Inn with 146 rooms being constructed on Lake Washington Blvd.
- A new state-of-the-art veterinary hospital opened across from the Seahawks at NE 44th.
- PACCAR is constructing a 170,000 square foot parts distribution center on a 25-acre site adjacent to the Kenworth factory.
- Group Health is building a corporate campus at the former Longacres site.
- A new, two-level, 406,000 square foot IKEA store is under construction for an enhanced shopping experience.
- CARMAX, a national used-car dealership, is building a 20,000 square foot building on a 12-acre site on East Valley Road.
- The Landing is 98% filled and continues to do well. It's a lively place to be 7 days a week.

### DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION IN FULL SWING

- Formation of Main Street Program & Renton Downtown Partnership to focus on downtown revitalization and improvement efforts.
- New 6-story building at 2nd and Main with 101 units and 4,000 square feet of street-front retail space.
- Rehabilitation of the Cortona Building, the historic 1950s era Woolworth's building, with a ground floor featuring several retail operators.
- Studies underway to explore the conversion of S. 2nd and S. 3rd Streets as well as other side streets back to two-way traffic.
- Study underway to produce a Master Plan for relocation of the Transit Center and redevelop the Piazza Park to encourage more public use.

### SUNSET AREA COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

- Opening a beautiful new library this month.
- Breaking ground on a quality multi-family facility featuring market-rate housing and retail space.
- Planning a new 4-acre park as a gathering spot for recreation and outdoor activities for the neighborhood.